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class of these exports; and details of imports from the Pacific countries. A final chapter presents the author's conclusions as to the effects of the Canal on trade competition in the Pacific markets, particularly as it will concern the United States. There are: an appendix, with tables to supplement the discussion of routes; a map of main ocean routes; and an elaborate index, covering 20 pages and making the book very useful for quick reference.

The book is not intended for light reading, but is literally jammed with facts and figures for serious consideration. Thus the elaborate tables, showing the details of trade between the Pacific countries and the great trade competitors, United States, United Kingdom, Germany, and France, are well worth the most careful study for the sake of the trade tendencies which they reveal. In fact, as a source of information about the trade of Pacific regions this book stands alone—is incomparably superior to any other.

Among the notable conclusions to be drawn from facts presented are: that in Southeastern Asia little expansion of United States trade is likely to result directly from the opening of the Canal route; that United States textiles probably will not figure much more prominently than now in most of the Pacific markets; that the development of transportation facilities in Pacific countries represents one of the greatest prospects for investing capital and furnishing materials from the United States. Obviously items of this sort—and the book is full of them—are invaluable to every trader. The sane point of view, the simple presentation, and the thorough analysis of facts throughout leave only the most trivial points to which exception might be taken.

Everyone interested in trade expansion will find the book indispensable to a thorough understanding of Pacific commerce and of what the Canal means to the different countries interested.

WALTER S. TOWER

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The Public Schools and Women in Office Service. By the Department of Research, Women's Educational and Industrial Union, Boston Massachusetts. Prepared under the direction of MAY ALLINSON. Boston, 1914. 8vo, pp. xv+187. \$0.80 net.

The Commission on National Aid to Vocational Education, reporting in 1914, recommended that more definite research be done to supply information needed in the training of commercial workers. In response to that

recommendation this book was compiled that the social, economic, and business conditions confronting the public high school might be clear to the educators who must solve the problem of commercial education in the public schools.

The need for commercial education was recognized by the establishment of business colleges before the middle of the last century. Since 1870 the growth in the number of such institutions has been rapid, but it was not until about 1894 that the public schools assumed any considerable proportion of the work by introducing commercial courses. In the meantime, women have been taking a larger and larger place in business life and claiming as their own certain branches of office work. The necessity for giving them an adequate training is apparent, both for their own sake and for the sake of the industry they enter. The chief difficulty in the situation today is due to the fact that training was well under way before vocational guidance developed.

The investigation conducted by the Women's Educational and Industrial Union sought information with regard to schools, kinds of office service, wages, and the home life of the workers. Its conclusions emphasized the following facts: Adequate training must include four years of work and should furnish vocational guidance and office experience in conjunction with the school work. The purpose of this training should be the acquisition of as broad an education and as thorough a technical training as possible. Further, the demand from the employers for business sense, general intelligence, and personality in the workers must be recognized. The school must have the responsibility of supervision of graduates, and it must be well acquainted with employers and the needs and demands of office work. Since wages are the expression of the educational equipment of the worker in a rough sort of way, an adequate education added to years of experience is the basis for success and advancement.

The report is appreciative of the work already being done in commercial education, and is moderate in its recommendations for the future. As indicative of the practical value of its work, it is interesting to know that many of the ideas suggested in the investigation have already been utilized in the recently established Clerical School of Boston. The book itself shows something of the defects incident to a compilation by several authors, in its repetition and lack of proportion.

The Audacious War. By CLARENCE W. BARRON. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1915. 8vo, pp. xiv+192. \$1.00.

According to this work from the pen of the publisher of the *Wall Street Journal*, the immediate causes of the war are directly connected with commercial treaties, protective tariffs, and economic development. The author has made a personal study of conditions in Europe and is well qualified to discuss the financial and commercial aspects of the present struggle.